



Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership
Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2008

Summary

Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) Members in Attendance (20):

Dennis Burke, Chair (Governor's Office)
Suzie Barr (Ex-Officio, Governor's Office)
Tom Betlach (AHCCCS)
Eddy Broadway (Department of Health Services)
Rob Lubitz on behalf of Dave Byers (Administrative Office of the Courts)
Scott Cocuzza (Business Leader)
Anthony Coulson (Drug Enforcement Administration)
Kenneth Deibert (Department of Economic Security)
Brian Wilcox on behalf of David Felix (Department of Public Safety)
Richard Fimbres (Governor's Office of Highway Safety)
Peggy Eggemeyer on behalf of Kellie Warren (Department of Juvenile Corrections)
Marnie Hodahkwen (Ex-Officio, Governor's Office)
Jane Irvine (Attorney General's Office)
Irene Jacobs (Governor's Office of Children, Youth and Families -Executive Director and Senior Policy Advisor)
Duce Minor (Parker Area Alliance for Community Empowerment, Inc.-PAACE)
Kim O'Connor (Governor's Office/Division for Substance Abuse Policy)
Jerry Oliver (AZ Department of Liquor License and Control)
Dona Markley on behalf of Dora Schriro (Department of Corrections)
Christopher Vasquez (Pinal County Sheriff)
Karen Ziegler (Arizona Criminal Justice Commission)

Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) Members Absent (4):

Jean Ajamie (Department of Education)
Mary Joyce Pruden (Ex-Officio, SAMHSA/CSAP)
Jeff Sanders (Community Member)
Mary Specio-Boyer (COPE Behavioral Services, Inc.)

Committee Chairs in Attendance (3):

Philip Stevenson (Substance Abuse Epidemiology Work Group)
Lisa Shumaker (Underage Drinking Committee)
Linda Weinberg (Workforce Development Committee)

Public (1):

Cassandra Larsen (APRC)



Call to Order

Mr. Dennis Burke called the meeting to order at 1:17 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Burke welcomed ASAP members, and discussed the state's FY08 budget deficit of \$1 Billion. He highlighted the importance of ASAP's role in helping to ensure that the state's substance abuse dollars are being used in a coordinated and efficient way that achieves outcomes, including use of the Project Investment Justification (PIJ) process that is currently being implemented. Mr. Burke introduced Ms. Morgan Hester, Program Administrator for ASAP. Ms. Hester will serve as ASAP's dedicated staff and resides in DSAP.

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Burke asked members to review the minutes from the previous meeting. Mr. Richard Fimbres motioned to approve the minutes as written and the motion was carried with no objections.

Strategic Focus Areas for 2008

Mr. Burke introduced Mr. James Copple who provided a brief overview of the agenda and noted the four Strategic Focus Areas for 2008. Mr. Copple referred ASAP members to the Executive Action Briefing on Law Enforcement and Drug Trafficking in their packets.

- **Child Welfare/Substance Abuse**

Mr. Copple introduced Mr. Eddy Broadway (Department of Health Services) and Mr. Ken Deibert (Department of Economic Security) who provided an overview and progress update of Strategic Focus Area 1: Child Welfare/Substance Abuse. Mr. Broadway discussed Executive Order 2008-01. He highlighted the Arizona Families F.I.R.S.T. Program and the need for coordination between state agencies to ensure that federal dollars are utilized for funding substance abuse services before state dollars. It was noted by Mr. Broadway that a survey was sent out to substance abuse providers that will provide a basic inventory of the substance abuse services available in the state with information related to capacity and quality/credibility of services. This survey will be part of the beginning stage of the gap analysis and is due back to the Department of Health Services by April 1, 2008.

It was noted that the Juvenile Justice and Courts meeting that was scheduled for April 1st had been cancelled and would be rescheduled regarding referrals and how multi-systems can come together and focus on alignment. Mr. Deibert agreed with Mr. Broadway that it was important that the service system aligns and is a coordinated effort.

In responding to a question by Mr. Burke, Mr. Deibert noted that 730 of 1,000 field CPS staff completed a survey soliciting their thoughts on access to substance abuse treatment. He also mentioned that a survey is being conducted regarding the capacity of the Families F.I.R.S.T. Program. Mr. Deibert noted progress related to the meth grant, stating that DES has overcome barriers related to the mentoring program for children whose parents struggle with meth addiction.



Mr. Copple noted the importance of the steps that were mentioned by Mr. Broadway and Mr. Deibert in carrying out the Executive Order to ultimately increase access to treatment services.

- **Law Enforcement/Drug Trafficking**

Mr. Copple introduced Mr. Brian Wilcox (Department of Public Safety) and Mr. Anthony Coulson (Drug Enforcement Administration), who presented and led a discussion on the second Strategic Focus Area, Law Enforcement/Drug Trafficking. The presentation was focused on outcomes produced by addressing the problem areas as identified in the Executive Action Briefing. Mr. Coulson noted the recommendations developed by the Meth Task Force and discussed the Strategic Planning meeting between law enforcement entities that had been recently held in Carefree. Mr. Coulson also noted the impact that the current budget deficit could have on law enforcement, especially the danger in law enforcement agencies having to compete for funding.

Mr. Wilcox highlighted the barriers related to intelligence. He stated that information sharing between state agencies continues to be a barrier and that they are working to address this problem, using HIDTA in Tucson and a central data and intelligence gathering center. Mr. Wilcox noted that the DEA is providing funding to do a “purity” survey on the meth that is being trafficked through the different counties in Arizona. Mr. Wilcox further discussed HIDTA and presented a graphic representation of 2007 seizures of meth, cocaine, and heroin. He noted heroin as an emerging trend.

Mr. Coulson communicated that there have been protocols established to overcome barriers related to the gaps in data in the “out” counties. He stated that the gaps in data generally exist because counties may not have the manpower to carry out the data collection and reporting. Mr. Wilcox noted that a data collection form has been created to assist in overcoming the barrier in obtaining data in Tribal communities. In responding to Mr. Copple’s question, Mr. Coulson noted that they were aware of the data gaps prior to the strategic planning meeting held in Carefree. Mr. Coulson mentioned that when sites do not report out, they do not receive important feedback from the HIDTA Center and miss out on the opportunity to receive valuable information and intelligence. He stated that at the Carefree meeting, the need for infrastructure development and the identification of liaisons to transfer data were recognized.

Mr. Coulson discussed the Drug Endangered Children (DEC) Program that was developed by the AG’s Office. He highlighted the need to have programs in place for children living in substance-trafficking and abusive environments that aren’t necessarily lab-type environments as clandestine labs are not a large problem in Arizona. A member of the public noted that the recommendations related to the Children of Incarcerated Parents Initiative could be a helpful reference. Mr. Deibert mentioned the Child Safety Bill that was passed, stating that CPS can now substantiate abuse when a child is exposed to illicit substances and toxic chemicals. Mr. Coulson noted the need for structure and encouragement to “out” counties to take ownership over their community’s issues. Ms. Jane Irvine mentioned that the DEC Program brings together different systems such as law enforcement and CPS to coordinate efforts throughout all counties.

Mr. Coulson noted the severity of drug trafficking throughout Arizona. He mentioned initiatives in addressing drug trafficking that would look at establishing interior checkpoints/barriers, as opposed to



just border checkpoints as the border between Arizona and Mexico accounts for over 40% of the illicit drugs coming into the United States. This discussion prompted Mr. Burke to suggest that the National Guard be represented on the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership.

Mr. Wilcox discussed communication, collaboration, and coordination with Tribal Communities. He stated that some Tribes have expressed an interest in partnering with state agencies to work towards combating the meth problem.

- **Data Driven Decisions and Policy Development**

Mr. Copple introduced Mr. Phillip Stevenson to discuss the third Strategic Focus Area, Data Driven Decisions and Policy Development. Mr. Stevenson discussed the partnership between tribal agencies to improve data collection. Mr. Stevenson outlined his presentation. He discussed the value of “good” data and used COMPSTAT, Prisoner Reentry data, ADAM and the Arizona Youth Survey as examples of some data that have informed public policy.

Mr. Stevenson highlighted the data that we have at the state level, including mortality, morbidity, and crime-related data. In response to Mr. Burke’s question, Mr. Stevenson noted that we do not always have drug-specific data, as the data that are received is a function of the data source. Mr. Jerry Oliver noted that information from emergency room doctors could often be helpful in identifying emerging trends. He stated that ASAP might want to consider means of communicating with doctors to acquire this information. In response to Mr. Coulson’s comment on this being an opportunity, Mr. Stevenson noted the importance of building on strengths.

Mr. Stevenson communicated that information is available on consumption patterns and consequences, in addition to contextual information such as school dropout rates, graduation rates, unemployment rates and poverty rates. Referencing the 2006 AYS survey, Mr. Stevenson provided specific self-reported data related to the misuse of prescription drugs for 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students. He noted a higher prevalence among youth in Mohave County than in Maricopa County, and the importance of this information for policy makers determining the allocation of resources. In responding to Mr. Burke’s question, Mr. Stevenson noted that the self-reported use among youth of inhalants and prescription drug use has increased since the 2004 AYS.

Mr. Stevenson mentioned the different state and national data sources. Mr. Copple commented on the importance of the data in obtaining a State Profile. Mr. Stevenson discussed the EPI Profile. He also commented on the various gaps in data, including substance abuse-specific data, the prevalence of the co-occurrence of substance abuse and involvement with CPS, substance abuse treatment capacity and emerging issues. Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Copple both commented that ADAM, the predecessor of the current AARIN project, had been important for prevention as it identified emerging trends. A member of the public commented that she thought data did exist related to co-occurrence of substance abuse and involvement with CPS. Mr. Deibert responded, stating that the data related to co-occurrence only pertains to removals.

Mr. Stevenson mentioned the data gaps that exist in Arizona. He stated that Arizona lacks a mechanism for collecting general population data on adult substance use and abuse, an emerging drug issue surveillance strategy, a statewide arrestee drug-monitoring program, and a dedicated data clearinghouse



that collects and analyzes substance use/abuse data.

Mr. Copple and Mr. Stevenson both commented on the importance of determining the best way to analyze and disseminate data to inform budget and policy. Mr. Jerry Oliver mentioned the importance in discussing the “why” rather than the “what and how”. He stated that the state continues to gather and discuss “after the fact” data and that he would like ASAP to focus on developing policy around the “why.” Mr. Copple noted that many decisions are based around perceptions and that data does drive decisions on education, employment, etc. He noted the importance of data analysis, which gets to the “why”. Mr. Oliver commented that the focus should be on how to build a “healthy, successful, productive human being from the start” and to get past the data. Mr. Copple noted that the purpose of the Strategic Focus Area is to ensure that the necessary data are available to drive good budget and policy decisions. Ms. Kim O’Connor mentioned the different reports available that can be referred to in making these types of decisions. Mr. Duce Minor noted his desire to continue with this discussion on a future agenda. He stated that the focus has moved from risk and protective factors to the silos of specific drugs and that it is important to continue with the discussion of the “why” factors.

Committee Updates

Methamphetamine Task Force

Mr. Coulson discussed the implementation of the ATR Grant and how it is intended to expand and enhance treatment services in Arizona. Ms. O’Connor thanked AOC for their support in securing and implementing the grant. Mr. Coulson mentioned that HIDTA is developing a system to track pseudoephedrine and that Arizona will be using the models of six other states to determine thresholds in what is reported.

Underage Drinking Committee

Ms. Lisa Shumaker provided encouragement to ASAP and mentioned her excitement in working together as state agencies and strategically moving in the same direction. Ms. Shumaker noted that underage drinking is the largest problem for youth in Arizona and highlighted the need to address alcohol issues where they start. She discussed the strategic plan that Arizona has in place for targeting underage drinking. She stated that the UAD Committee is working on compiling outcomes from this strategic plan and that they will be reporting back to ASAP once their work is completed. In response to Mr. Burke’s question, Ms. Shumaker and Mr. Oliver communicated that the alcohol industry has expressed a growing interest in working with agencies to address underage drinking. Mr. Copple cited some examples of how the industry is responding to underage drinking.

Workforce Development Committee

Ms. Lisa Shumaker provided a committee update on behalf of Ms. Linda Weinberg. She stated that the Committee is looking at a credentialing process to ensure that qualified individuals are in the workforce. Ms. Shumaker also noted that the Committee is looking at evidence-based practice and its prevalence in the service sector. She stated that the Committee is working to build capacity and that they are currently focusing on workforce training. Ms. Shumaker also noted that the Committee is looking at how to



provide a forum for the fields of treatment and enforcement as they relate to the Workforce Development Committee. Lastly, Ms. Shumaker mentioned the *Draw the Line Campaign* addressing underage drinking and the launch of the traveling exhibit.

Upcoming Events

Ms. O'Connor provided updates. She referred ASAP members to the materials in their packets. She stated that the latest version of the PIJ process could be found in the packet, and suggested that members take a look at the latest version and provide any additional feedback before it is finalized and implemented.

Ms. O'Connor also referred members to the data collection form in the packet. She thanked Mr. Stevenson and the EPI Work Group for their work in developing this tool, which will enable the state to measure treatment capacity.

Ms. O'Connor mentioned the Crystal Darkness Campaign that will take place on April 15, 2008. She provided an overview of the documentary which will be simulcast on all the network channels. In responding to questions, Ms. O'Connor stated that Childhelp USA will be staffing the phone bank and that a subcommittee has been formed to address the details of the event.

Mr. Copple mentioned that Arizona was selected for the COPS Grant, enabling the state to leverage national resources. He stated that Arizona is being included as a result of the meth strategic plan and its implementation. Ms. Irene Jacobs also noted the benefit for Arizona in leveraging federal resources to provide information from the *A Plan for Action: Addressing the Methamphetamine Crisis in Arizona*.

Future Meeting Schedule

April 22, 2008	2:00-4:00 pm
June 26, 2008	1:00-3:00 pm

Mr. Burke announced that the next ASAP meeting would be held on April 22, 2008.

Call to the Public

Mr. Burke made a call to the public and there was no response.

Adjourn

Mr. Burke adjourned the meeting at 2:59 p.m.